

Billed Party Preference, CC Docket Number 92-77

July 26, 1994

Page 2

Before you make any decision, please stop and listen to the thousands of local jails that will be dramatically and adversely impacted by your failure to exclude them from the B.P.P. System.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "C. Plummer".

Charles C. Plummer  
Sheriff/Coroner

for



OFFICE OF  
**SHERIFF**  
COUNTY OF KINGS

P.O. BOX 986  
HANFORD, CALIF. 93232  
PHONE 209/582-3211

TOM CLARK  
SHERIFF-CORONER  
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATOR

July 22, 1994

The Honorable Reed E. Hundt, Chairman  
Federal Communication Commission  
1919 M Street NW  
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: CC docket number 92-77  
Billed Party Preference (BPP)

Dear Chairman Hundt:

As the Sheriff of Kings County, California, and a jail administrator, I am requesting that the Federal Communications Commission exclude local jails from the proposed "Billed Party Preference" system for 0+interlata pay phone traffic rules.

The security of my jails is of paramount importance. Without the safeguards of my in-place telephone system, the administrations of my jail would be greatly impacted. The security provided by our current system, helps to prevent fraud, and quickly block calls to protect victims and witnesses from intimidation. Without these safeguards, we would also lose the ability to rapidly determine when, where, and to who calls were placed. This is valuable information on other criminal activities such as, escapes, or the smuggling of contraband, which also involves help from the outside. The Billed Party Preference (BPP) would take away our control of inmate calls through a carrier we know and trust. Calls will be routed through many different carriers with no obligation to jail security or administration.

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Institution of the BPP would create a vast monetary problem to the already strapped economy of Kings County. California has statutes in place to provide for programs, services, and facilities to inmates through the inmate welfare fund. The commission paid by our contracted telephone service is a primary source of revenue for the inmate welfare fund. Elimination of the 0+ commissions currently received would be devastating.

The commissions collected for the inmate welfare fund pay for services and programs, such as, adult education, GED programs, basic literacy training, English as a second language, religious programs, and many more. Even basics, such as, supplying indigent inmates with personal hygiene supplies are provided by the inmate welfare fund.

Kings County has been forced to eliminate jobs, and many services due to the economy. Programs, or services, to the inmates would cease or have to be funded by the already tight tax dollar. We simply cannot replace the dollars we would lose if our commission revenues were eliminated.

Please take these factors into consideration, and add them to the other letters from jails that will be drastically and adversely impacted by your failure to exclude them from the BPP. The consequences would be devastating to my jails and many others if we are not excluded.

Sincerely, 

Tom Clark, Sheriff  
Coroner, Public Administrator

cc: Honorable James H. Quello  
Honorable Andrew C. Barrett  
Honorable Rachelle B. Chong  
Honorable Susan Ness



CC 92-77

DECLASSIFIED

**Richland County Detention Center**

1400 Huger Street  
Columbia, South Carolina 29201  
Telephone 748-4936

James A. McCaulley  
Director

July 28, 1994

DECLASSIFIED  
AUG 2 1994  
FBI - COLUMBIA

The Honorable Reed E. Hundt  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20554

**RE: BPP (Billed Party Preference)**

Dear Mr. Hundt:

I am a Detention Center Director who has survived under the "old system" and who enjoys our current contract phone system, provided by our inmate phone service provider.

Inmate abuse of any system outside of the control of the institution is horrendous. When this abuse occurs, correctional staff time is wasted handling complaints from citizens, witnesses, prosecutors, law enforcement pertaining to abuse and threats by inmates.

Approval of the BPP for inmate telecommunications would be a **giant step backwards** in the area of inmate telecommunications.

We have built up trust and confidence with our inmate phone service providers over the years, and for all practical purposes eliminate fraud. Of greater impact, has been the elimination of harassment of victim/witness by inmates under our control. Additionally, there would be a great loss of revenue to local government's ever increasing cost. Should the phones be removed from our facility, and surely they would be, we would be set back at least a decade! Who would replace the phones, surely not the government entity.

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The Honorable Reed E. Hundt  
Page Two  
July 28, 1994

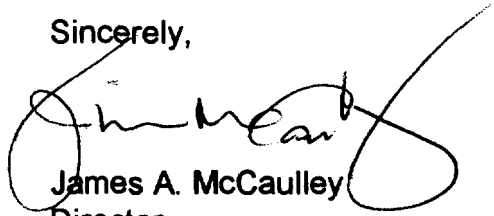
The greatest single improvement to the correctional field over the past eight years has been the phone system provided by an inmate phone service provider.

I have reviewed comments made on this issue from professional correctional practitioners from around the country. I echo all their concerns on the negative impact of BPP, should it apply to correctional facilities.

Your assistance is appreciated in "exempting correctional facilities from BPP".

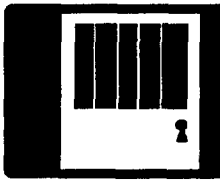
Thank you in advance for your favorable consideration.

Sincerely,



James A. McCaulley  
Director

JAM/rjw (0726hund)



**COOK COUNTY  
DEPARTMENT  
OF  
CORRECTIONS**

**MICHAEL F. SHEAHAN**  
Sheriff  
**J. W. FAIRMAN, JR.**  
Executive Director

2700 South California Avenue / Chicago, Illinois 60608 / 312-890-6876

**July 25, 1994**

RECEIVED

AUG 9 1994

**The Honorable Reed E. Hundt, Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20554**

**Dear Chairman Hundt:**

**The purpose of this letter is to voice opposition to the proposed introduction of Billed Party Preference (BPP) at correctional facilities. BPP, while it may benefit ordinary users, will detriment the security and control of operations if applied to the phone use of inmate populations. Specifically:**

**(1) BPP will disable the continuation of a working relationship with a single carrier. This relationship is important in that it enables comforting levels of trust and confidence in service. The benefit of a single carrier rests in contractual obligation, commitment and experience, all of which will be lost if carriers can be freely selected.**

**(2) BPP will eliminate a source of current revenue which ensures the provision and maintenance of quality phone equipment. Without this revenue, quality assurance is threatened and the possibility of inoperative inmate phones is considerable. This possibility has serious implications on our ability to effectively manage and control inmates in the event of discontinued or disrupted phone service.**

**(3) A purpose of BPP, to ensure fair rates, can be achieved in correctional facilities without the imposition of BPP. A more effective and less consequential solution would be to introduce rate ceilings on all inmate calls and to require agencies to enforce and ensure these ceilings through independent contracts. In this way, the introduction of price control could not be at the expense of existing operational benefits.**

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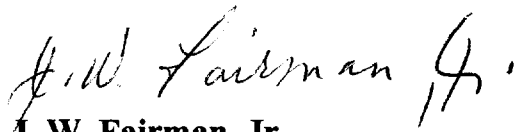
**The Honorable Reed E.Hundt**

**Page Two**

**7/25/94**

**These implications suggest that BPP, while it may solve one problem, will actually introduce several others in the process. Any and all reconsideration of this initiative is appreciated.**

**Sincerely,**

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "J. W. Fairman, Jr." with a small flourish at the end.

**J. W. Fairman, Jr.  
Executive Director**

**JWF/pjh**



# Port of Seattle

July 29, 1994

DISPATCHED

RECEIVED

AUG 04 1994

FCC MAIL ROOM

Mr. William F. Caton  
Acting Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street NW, Room 222  
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Billed Party Preference

Dear Mr. Caton:

In response to the Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking regarding Billed Party Preference (BPP), we are pleased to submit our comments relative to the operation of airport facilities.

Seattle-Tacoma International Airport, like most U. S. airports, is largely funded through fees paid for by the airlines operating at the airport. All capital, maintenance and operating costs incurred by the airport authority are paid for by the airlines by way of landing fees. Rents and concession fees collected, including commission fees from public telephones installed for the convenience of the travelers, are used as credits to reduce the landing fees. Implementation of the BPP will eliminate the pay phone commissions allowed by the current presubscription system, thus effectively increasing the airlines' operating costs. Inevitably, these costs would be passed on to the travelers which are the users of the public phones in an airport environment. In other words, this financial burden (commission fees) of telephone usage at airports by only a portion of the travelling public would have to ultimately be born by all airline passengers. Accordingly, we urge the Commission not to proceed with the implementation of BPP as we believe that BPP is not in the best interest of the pay phone users.

Other reasons why we see that implementation of BPP is not in the best interest of the public include the following:

1. Degradation of the quality of service because of the potential for a longer waiting time before a call is connected. Time is very essential for travelers due to flight schedules.
2. The possibility of a higher billing cost to callers to recover the increasing technological cost of implementing BPP, in addition to the airlines' recovery of their increased operating costs as mentioned previously.

Seattle-Tacoma  
International Airport  
P.O. Box 68727  
Seattle, WA 98168 U.S.A.  
TELEX 703433  
FAX (206) 431-5912

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Mr. William F. Caton  
Federal Communications Commission  
Page 2

3. The possibility that Bell Operating Companies may limit the number of public phones to be made available to the travelers if airport authorities decide to impose an alternative fee in lieu of the commission fee loss. If the airport is forced to purchase additional phones, in order to maintain the number of pay phones for the convenience of the public, particularly during peak hours, this will also escalate the airlines' operating costs which, again, would inevitably be passed on to the travelers. Either way, travelers/phone users would be adversely affected by BPP.
4. The increasing utilization of cellular phones, debit cards, and dial-around make BPP issues academic.
5. We are not aware of any problem in our airport that would require the proposed change to BPP and, therefore, BPP should not be implemented, or airports should at least be excluded from BPP.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on BPP.

Sincerely,



Karl D. Myers  
Director, Business & Property Management

0860R/ACG/mcf



OFFICE OF THE  
**SHERIFF**  
**COUNTY OF YATES**

Public Safety Building • 227 Main Street  
Penn Yan, New York 14527  
Phone: (315) 536-4438  
Fax: (315) 536-5191

**RONALD G. SPIKE**  
Sheriff

**JOHN C. GLEASON**  
Undersheriff

PHONES:

Administration  
(315) 536-5172

Criminal Division  
(315) 536-5176

Juvenile Aid Division  
(315) 536-5177

Jail Division  
(315) 536-5175

Civil Division  
(315) 536-5174

Records Division  
(315) 536-5178

July 27, 1994

The Hon. Reed E. Hundt  
Federal Communications Commission  
FCC Secretary's Office  
1919 M. Street, NW Room 222  
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Mr. Hundt:

It has recently come to my attention that there is a matter called Billed Party Preference (BPP). This matter involves possible regulation by the Federal Communications Commission regarding inmate telephone systems.

Some of the concerns I see, should this legislation pass, would involve the possibility of a person receiving a collect call from an inmate, not being given the opportunity to know that the call is indeed coming from a correctional facility before a decision is made whether to accept it or not. The capabilities of phone number blocking have been relatively easy for us to achieve. Additionally, should the receiver of the collect call have the option to choose the long distance carrier, this could very likely reduce the revenues returning to our facility. These monies are returned to our commissary account which we use for enhancement of inmate life, such as our recent paving of the recreation yard and purchases of recreational items for them. A controlled inmate phone system has also freed up our correction personnel from having to escort inmates to and from a telephone for the purpose of making their calls, be they legally related or private.

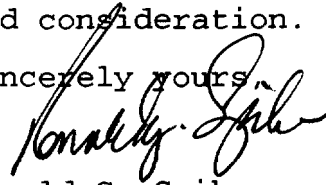
I see some major drawbacks that would affect local correctional facilities such as mine should this legislation be passed. I ask you to consider opposing this action.

No. of Copies rec'd 92-77  
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Hon. Reed E. Hundt  
July 27, 1994  
Page 2

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely yours

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Ronald G. Spike".

Ronald G. Spike  
Sheriff of Yates County

RGS:sst

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

RECEIVED

August 1, 1994

AUG 9 1994

Reed E. Hundt, Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20554

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

Re: CC Docket No. 92-77 Opposition to Billed Party Preference

Dear Chairman Hundt:

We are opposed to the application of Billed Party Preference (BPP) at inmate facilities.

We have analyzed the security and administration needs at our facility and have found it to be necessary to route inmate calls from our facility to a single carrier that is equipped to handle inmate calls and with whom we have a contractual relationship. We cannot allow inmates to have open access to the telecommunications network and the freedom to use any carrier they please. BPP will take away our right to coordinate inmate calls through a carrier we know and trust. Instead, inmate calls will be routed to a number of different carriers, none of whom will have any obligation to us, and few that will be trained to handle inmate calls.

We have also found it necessary to install phone equipment that is specifically designed for inmate calls. This equipment helps prevent fraud, abusive calls, and other criminal activity over the telephone network. Given the constant budgetary constraints that we are under, we cannot afford to provide this equipment without the help of inmate phone service providers. BPP would eliminate the revenue stream that finances our inmate phones. If BPP is applied to inmate facilities, there will be no way for us to finance these phones, nor will there be inmate phone service providers to assist us. Without inmate phones, the morale of our inmates will be devastated. The resulting increase in tension will make it more difficult for our staff to manage inmates.

Furthermore, we are sensitive to the rates inmate families pay for calls. We fully appreciate the FCC's concern if some Sheriffs do not take responsibility for protecting inmate families from abusive rates. We are very concerned that the FCC's solution for this lack of responsibility is BPP. The proper and more effective action would be to adopt rate ceilings on inmate calls and then let Sheriffs enforce these rate ceilings through their contracts. Indeed we believe the overwhelming majority of Sheriffs are committed to requiring rates that are fair and reasonable.

In short, BPP would take away our ability to employ important security and administrative measures that we have found to be necessary at our facility, ultimately reducing inmate phone availability, which in turn decreases the efficiency of our staff. Please, do not adopt regulations that interfere with our administrative and security decisions -- decisions that are clearly within our discretion and which we have a public responsibility to make.

Respectfully submitted,

Art Binkelman Sheriff  
Name/Title

Effingham County Jail  
Name of Correctional Facility

101 N. 4th Effingham, IL 62401  
Address

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# Henry County Commissioners

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AUG 9 1994



COURTHOUSE  
660 N. PERRY  
BOX 546  
NAPOLEON, OHIO  
43545-0546

Ph. (419) 592-4876  
(419) 592-1903

## BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS:

Rita M. Franz  
Richard J. Bennett  
Richard C. Bertz

CLERK:  
Vicki R. Glick

OFFICE HOURS:  
Monday - Friday  
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

MEETING TIME:  
Monday  
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
Thursday  
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

August 1, 1994

The Honorable Reed E. Hundt, Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 92-77 Opposition to Billed Party Preference

Dear Chairman Hundt:

We are opposed to the application of Billed Party Preference (BPP) at inmate facilities.

With the Corrections Commission of Northwest Ohio they have found it necessary to route inmate calls from the facility to a single carrier that is equipped to handle inmate calls and with whom we have a contractual relationship. We cannot allow inmates to have open access to the telecommunications network and the freedom to use any carrier they please. BPP will take away our responsibility to coordinate inmate calls through a carrier CCNO knows and trusts. Instead, inmate calls will be routed to a number of different carriers, none of whom will have any obligation to CCNO and few that will be trained to handle inmate calls. Criminal behavior with the phones will be uncontrollable.

In short, BPP would take away CCNO's ability to employ important security and administrative measures that CCNO has found to be necessary at their facility. We urge you to not adopt regulations that interfere with their administrative and security decisions - decisions that are clearly within CCNO's discretion and which they have a public responsibility to make.

Approving such legislation as BPP, as currently written, will also enable such inmate advocate groups to pursue other legislative agendas that exceed the intent of current case law, prisoner rights as guaranteed by our forefathers in the constitution and would encourage you to ignore what the professionals in the corrections field need to protect the public.

Sincerely,

HENRY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

*Richard J. Bennett*

*Richard C. Bertz*

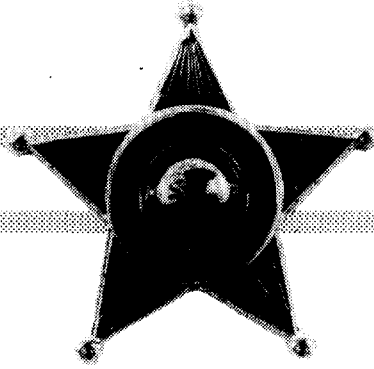
*Rita M. Franz*

pc: The Honorable James H. Quello  
The Honorable Rachelle B. Chong

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The Honorable Andrew C. Barrett  
The Honorable Susan Ness

DOCKET NO. 92-77



## OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF, Stephenson County

Samuel J. Volkert, Sheriff

July 27, 1994

RECEIVED

AUG 9 1994

Reed E. Hundt, Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, NW  
Washington D.C. 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 92-77 Opposition to Billed Party Preference

Dear Chairman Hundt:

We are opposed to the application of Billed Party Preference (BPP) at inmate facilities.

We have analyzed the security and administration needs at our facility and have found it to be necessary to route inmate calls from our facility to a single carrier that is equipped to handle inmate calls and with whom we have a contractual relationship. We cannot allow inmates to have open access to the telecommunications network and the freedom to use any carrier they please. BPP will take away our right to coordinate inmate calls through a carrier we know and trust. Instead, inmate calls will be routed to a number of different carriers, none of whom will have any obligation to us, and few that will be trained to handle inmate calls.

We have also found it necessary to install phone equipment that is specifically designed for inmate calls. This equipment helps prevent fraud, abusive calls, and other criminal activity over the telephone network. Given the constant budgetary constraints that we are under, we cannot afford to provide this equipment without the help of inmate phone service providers. BPP would eliminate the revenue stream that finances our inmate phones. If BPP is applied to inmate facilities, there will be no way for us to finance these phones, nor will there be inmate phone service providers to assist us. Without inmate phones, the morale of our inmates will be devastated. The resulting increase in tension will make it more difficult for our staff to manage inmates.

Furthermore, we are sensitive to the rates inmate families pay for calls. We fully appreciate the FCC's concern if some Sheriffs do not take responsibility for protecting inmate families from abusive rates. We are very concerned that the FCC's solution for this lack of responsibility is BPP. The proper and more effective action would be to adopt rate ceilings on inmate calls and then let Sheriffs enforce these rate ceilings through their contracts. Indeed we believe the overwhelming majority of Sheriffs are committed to requiring rates that are fair and reasonable.

In short, BPP would take away our ability to employ important security and administrative measures that we have found to be necessary at our facility, ultimately reducing inmate phone availability, which in turn decreased the efficiency of our staff. Please, do not adopt regulations that interfere with our administrative and security decisions--decisions that are clearly within our discretion and which we have a public responsibility to make.

Respectfully submitted,

Captain Paul Smielewski, Administrator  
Stephenson County Jail  
202 E. Exchange  
Freeport, IL 61032

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List ABCDE \_\_\_\_\_

**LINDY PENDERGRASS**  
Sheriff of Orange County

144 East Margaret Lane  
Hillsborough, North Carolina, 27278

August 1, 1994

The Honorable Reed E. Hundt, Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20554

RECEIVED

AUG 9 1994

Re: CC Docket No. 92-77 Opposition to Billed Party Preference

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

Dear Chairman Hundt:

We are opposed to the application of Billed Party Preference (BPP) at inmate facilities.

We have analyzed the security and administration needs at our facility and have found it to be necessary to route inmate calls from our facility to a single carrier that is equipped to handle inmate calls and with whom we have a contractual relationship. We cannot allow inmates to have open access to the telecommunications network and the freedom to use any carrier they please. BPP will take away our right to coordinate inmate calls through a carrier we know and trust. Instead, inmate calls will be routed to a number of different carriers, none of whom will have any obligation to us, and few that will be trained to handle inmate calls.

We have also found it necessary to install phone equipment that is specifically designed for inmate calls. This equipment helps prevent fraud, abusive calls, and other criminal activity over the telephone network. Given the constant budgetary constraints that we are under, we cannot afford to provide this equipment without the help of inmate phone service providers. BPP would also eliminate the revenue stream that finances our inmate phones. If BPP is applied to inmate facilities, there will be no way for us to finance these phones, nor will there be inmate phone service providers to assist us. Without inmate phones, the morale of our inmates will be devastated. The resulting increase in tension will make it more difficult for our staff to manage inmates.

Furthermore, we are sensitive to the rates inmate families pay for calls. We fully appreciate the FCC's concern if some Sheriffs do not take responsibility for protecting inmate families from abusive rates. We do not agree with the FCC that the solution for this lack of responsibility is BPP. The proper and more effective action would be to adopt rate ceilings on inmate calls and then let Sheriffs enforce these rate ceilings through their contracts. Indeed we believe the overwhelming majority of Sheriffs are committed to requiring rates that are fair and reasonable.

In short, BPP would take away our ability to employ important security and administrative measures that we have found to be necessary at our facility, ultimately reducing inmate phone availability, which in turn decreases the efficiency of our staff. We urge you to not adopt regulations that interfere with our administrative and security decisions -- decisions that are clearly within our discretion and which we have a public responsibility to make.

Respectfully submitted,

*Captain Joe H. Richey*  
Name Title

*Orange County Jail*  
Name of Correctional Facility

*125 COURT ST.*  
Address

*Hillsborough, N.C. 27278*

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# SOMERSET COUNTY DETENTION CENTER

30474 REVELLS NECK ROAD WESTOVER, MARYLAND 21871

TELEPHONE: 651-9223, 9224

EARL L. CHARNICK  
WARDEN

CYNTHIA ELZA  
ASSISTANT WARDEN

July 28, 1994

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AUG 9 1994

The Honorable Reed E. Hundt, Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 92-77 Opposition to Billed Party  
Preference

Dear Chairman Hundt:

I am opposed to this action at my facility and other correctional facilities. The taxpayers have to absorb a tremendous amount of cost now in maintaining the inmate population with very little returns. Your action would jeopardize security and administrative procedures at my facility. Inmate telephones are a privilege and not a right. Your proposal would cause abuse and misuse.

Our carrier at the present allows me to control the inmate use. Your bill would take that control away not to mention a revenue return to our county government. I am urging you to reconsider this proposal and let the system remain the same.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'E. Charnick', enclosed within a circular stamp or seal.

Earl Charnick  
Warden

EC:vl

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# MADERA COUNTY

DEPT. OF CORRECTIONS

## DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

**William Young**  
Director of Corrections

**ADULT CORRECTIONAL  
FACILITY**

August 1, 1994

The Honorable Reed E. Hundt, Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20554

RECEIVED  
AUG 9 1994  
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

14191 Road 28  
Madera, CA 93638  
(209) 675-7951

Re: CC Docket No. 92-77 Opposition to Billed Party Preference

Dear Chairman Hundt:

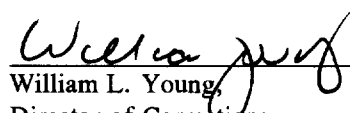
Please count me as opposed to the proposed Billed Party Preference (BPP) for inmate telephone systems.

The use of a single carrier for inmate telephone services is currently the best method for preventing inmates from committing fraud, criminal activity and abusive calls on the telephone system. Also, this system is self-supporting and requires no outlay of taxpayer money to provide mandated inmate telephone services. In this time of budgetary hardships and personnel cutbacks, our facility could ill afford the burden of providing a telephone system for inmate usage. Without the revenues generated by a single carrier telephone services provider, funding would quickly cease for many inmate programs and activities.

The rates charged by our inmate telephone services provider have been challenged in court by inmates and have been upheld because they are controlled by the California Public Utilities Commission. I feel the correct approach to resolving disputes regarding telephone rates should be addressed to that commission by the aggrieved parties.

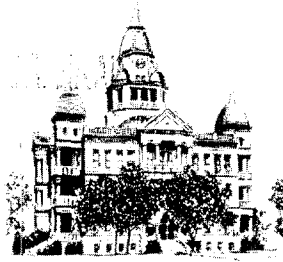
To state it briefly, I feel that many jails and correctional facilities will be adversely affected, even punished, because a few Sheriffs and administrators have not adequately protected inmates from telephone overcharges. Please do not adopt such regulations that will reduce our ability to control telephone fraud and protect law-abiding citizens from threats and harassment by inmates.

Respectfully submitted,

  
William L. Young,  
Director of Corrections  
Madera County Department of Corrections  
14191 Road 28  
Madera, CA 93638

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COMMISSIONER PRECINCT 2  
DENTON COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER  
3740 NORTH JOSEY LANE - SUITE 200  
CARROLLTON, TEXAS 75007  
(214) 492-0139  
FAX (214) 394-4097



SANDY JACOBS  
DENTON COUNTY COMMISSIONER

COMMISSIONERS COURT  
COURTHOUSE ON-THE-SQUARE  
410 W. HICKORY  
DENTON, TEXAS 76201  
1-800-346-3189  
(817) 382-0845

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AUG 9 1994

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

July 27, 1994

The Honorable Reed E. Hundt  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: Billed Party Preference; CC Docket No. 92-77

Dear Chairman Hundt,

It has been brought to my attention that the Federal Communications Commission is in the process of considering a "billed party preference" for O+inter LATA payphone traffic. Our county facility generates calls by over 850 inmates in our jail. Currently we have a phone system that allows the Sheriff to effectively control call abuse and fraud by the inmates. If the BPP is implemented there is concern that the Inmate Phone Systems, such as the one we use, will no longer exist.

It is my understanding that implementing BPP would eliminate the revenue-generating agreements that the county has in place with the inmate phone services. This revenue is used to provide educational and rehabilitation program for the inmates. Be assured that our contract for phone services specifies that the inmates pay no more than the standard GTE and ATT rates.

I am opposed to the implementation of a "billed party preference" that would make changes in our Inmate Phone System. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Sandy Jacobs  
Denton County Commissioner

No. of Copies 1  
LIST ABCDE

cc: Weldon Lucas, Denton County Sheriff



# Sheriff's Office

Story County

PAUL H. FITZGERALD, Sheriff



Emergency 911 • Office: 515-382-6566 • Fax #: 515-382-4571 • P.O. Box 265 • Nevada, Iowa 50201

July 28, 1994

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: CC Docket #92-77

Dear Chairman Hundt:

I am writing to voice my concern about the proposed Billed Party Preference regulation for long distance telephone calls. As I understand it, if this proposal were passed, there would be detrimental effects felt throughout the corrections profession.

The Story County Jail is a small facility, holding a maximum of 46 inmates. We are currently able to choose an inmate telephone provider based on the services they can offer us and the rate of revenue generated from inmate use of the phones. The right to choose a vendor has been very important to us, and I believe that both inmates and correctional staff would suffer if we were not afforded the opportunity to do so.

There are several other issues that I feel would be negatively affected by this regulation, such as:

1. We would lose the ability to control inmate calls.
  - A. It is occasionally necessary to monitor calls made for security purposes.
  - B. Some numbers must be blocked to prevent inmates from harassing victims or making nuisance calls.
2. We would lose the potential for creating revenue for the inmate commissary system. This places the financial burden back on the taxpayers to provide inmate supplies and services.
3. Without call control, facilities would be unable to control fraud problems currently handled by inmate phone providers.
4. I suspect that the technology for BPP would be costly, and that cost would be passed along to the consumer.

We do not have the staff, nor could we afford to return to the old ways of providing phone calls to inmates. Therefore, we oppose the Billed Party Preference regulation and encourage you to do the same.

Sincerely,

*G. Gary F. Foster*

Gary F. Foster  
Lieutenant

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*C*

COUNTY OF WAYNE  
OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF

ROBERT A. FICANO  
Sheriff



AUG 8 3 14 PM '94  
MELVINE E. TURNER  
Undersheriff

July 27, 1994

Reed E. Hundt, Chair  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chair Hundt:

Re: CC Docket No. 92-77 Opposition to Billed Party Preference

We are opposed to the application of Billed Party Preference (BPP) in inmate Facilities. We have analyzed our security and administration needs and have found it to be necessary to route inmate calls from our Facility to a single carrier that is equipped to hand inmate calls and with whom we have a contractual relationship. We cannot allow inmates to have open access to the telecommunications network.

In addition, we have found it necessary to install phone equipment that is specifically designed for inmate calls. This equipment helps prevent fraud, abusive calls, and other criminal activity over the telephone network. Given the constant budgetary constraints that we are under, we cannot afford to provide this equipment without the help of inmate phone service providers. BPP would also eliminate the revenue stream that finances our inmate phones. If BPP is applied to inmate facilities, there will be no way for us to finance these phones, or will there be inmate phone service providers to assist us. While we are sensitive to the rates inmate families pay for calls, the more effective solution would be to adopt rate ceilings on inmate calls and then let Sheriffs enforce these rate ceilings through their contracts.

It is not in keeping with prudent security and administrative standards to forego measures intended to assure the safety of

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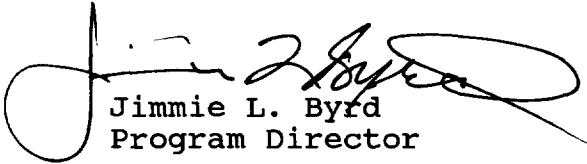
224-2232

ADDRESS REPLY TO: 1231 ST. ANTOINE, DETROIT, MI 48226

224-2233

inmates, Staff and the general public. If, as anticipated, the BPP violates the security systems not in place, there would be no alternative except to terminate all inmate phone service.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jimmie L. Byrd", is written over the typed name and title.

Jimmie L. Byrd  
Program Director

Wayne County Jail Division  
3501 Hamtramck Drive  
Hamtramck, Michigan 48211  
(313) 875-7010

slh



## CRAWFORD COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

200 W. Michigan Avenue, Grayling, Michigan 49738

David G. Lovely  
Sheriff

Aug 8 3 13 PM '94 Arthur E. Clough  
Under Sheriff

AUG 9 1994

August 5, 1994

Mr. Reed E. Hundt, Chairman  
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
1919 M Street NW  
Washington, DC 20554

Re: CC Docket #92-77 Opposition to Billed Party Preference

Dear Chairman Hundt:

The Crawford County Sheriff's Office and the Crawford County Jail is opposed to the application of the Billed Party Preference (BPP) at inmate facilities.

We need the ability to route all of our inmate calls from our facility to a single carrier that is so equipped to handle such inmate calls and with whom we can have a contractual relationship with. We do not want to allow our inmates to have open access to the telecommunications network and the freedom to use any carrier they please. BPP will take away our right to coordinate inmate calls through a carrier that we know and trust. Instead, inmate calls will be routed through numbers of different carriers, none of whom will have any kind of obligation to us and will not be trained on how to handle such calls. We also need the ability to install the special telephone equipment for jails and prisons. This equipment helps to prevent fraud, abusive calls and other criminal activity over the telephone network.

We cannot afford to provide this equipment without the help of the inmate phone service providers. BPP would eliminate this revenue stream that finances our inmate telephones. If BPP is applied to inmate facilities, there would be no way for us to finance these telephones, nor would there be inmate telephone service providers to assist us. Without the inmate telephones, the morale of our inmates would be devastated, resulting in the increase of tension, making it more difficult for our staff to manage the inmate population within our facility.

Furthermore, we are sensitive to the families in what they pay for the inmate calls. We do appreciate the FCC's concern if Sheriff's do not

*"To Protect and Serve the People of Crawford County"*

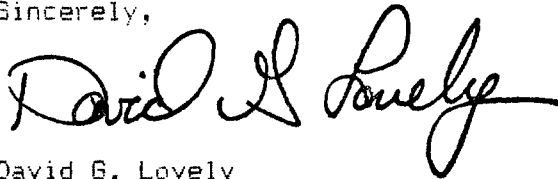
Phone (517) 348-4616 • Correctional Facility (517) 348-4822 • FAX (517) 348-8532

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Page 2  
Mr. Reed E. Hunt  
August 5, 1994

take responsibility for protecting inmate families from abusive rates. I am very concerned that the FCC's solution for this lack of responsibility is BPP. I feel a more proper and effective action will would be to adopt the rate ceilings on inmate telephone calls and then let Sheriff's enforce these ceilings through their contracts. In short, BPP would take away our ability to employ important security and administrative measures that we have found to be necessary to our jail, ultimately reducing inmate telephone availability, which in turn, decreases the efficiency of our staff.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "David G. Lovely". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "David" and last name "Lovely" clearly legible.

David G. Lovely  
Sheriff

DGL:cad

# Sheriff

ROBERT C. "Bobby" KNOWLES

P.O. Box 2148, Fort Pierce, Florida 34954



DISPATCHED

Member National Sheriffs' Association  
Member Florida Sheriffs' Association

Telephone: (407) 461-7300, (407) 287-7300

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RECEIVED

August 2, 1994

AUG 9 1994

The Honorable Reed E. Hundt, Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
ATTENTION: DIRECTOR

Re: CC Docket No. 92-77 Opposition to Billed Party Preference

Dear Chairman Hundt:

We are opposed to the application of Billed Party Preference (BPP) at inmate facilities.

We have analyzed the security and administration needs at our facility and have found it to be necessary to route inmate calls from our facility to a single carrier that is equipped to handle inmate calls and with whom we have a contractual relationship. We cannot allow inmates to have open access to the telecommunications network and the freedom to use any carrier they please. BPP will take away our right to coordinate inmate calls through a carrier we know and trust. Instead, inmate calls will be routed to a number of different carriers, none of whom will have any obligation to us, and few that will be trained to handle inmate calls.

We have also found it necessary to install phone equipment that is specifically designed for inmate calls. This equipment helps prevent fraud, abusive calls, and other criminal activity over the telephone network. Given the constant budgetary constraints that we are under, we cannot afford to provide this equipment without the help of inmate phone service providers. BPP would also eliminate the revenue stream that finances our inmate phones. If BPP is applied to inmate facilities, there will be no way for us to finance these phones, nor will there be inmate phone service providers to assist us. Without inmate phones, the morale of our inmates will be devastated. The resulting increase in tension will make it more difficult for our staff to manage inmates.

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The Honorable Reed E. Hundt, Chairman  
August 2, 1994  
Page 2 of 2

Furthermore, we are sensitive to the rates inmate families pay for calls. We fully appreciate the FCC's concern if some Sheriffs do not take responsibility for protecting inmate families from abusive rates. We do not agree with the FCC that the solution for this lack of responsibility is BPP. The proper and more effective action would be to adopt rate ceilings on inmate calls and then let the Sheriffs enforce these rate ceilings through their contracts. Indeed we believe the overwhelming majority of Sheriffs are committed to requiring rates that are fair and reasonable.

In short, BPP would take away our ability to employ important security and administrative measures that we have found to be necessary at our facility, ultimately reducing inmate phone availability, which in turn decreases the efficiency of our staff. We urge you to not adopt regulations that interfere with our administrative and security decisions -- decisions that are clearly within our discretion and which we have a public responsibility to make.

Sincerely,

Robert C. "Bobby" Knowles  
Sheriff



By Captain Lillie R. Miller, Director  
St. Lucie County Correctional Center

LRM/jar

cc: Sheriff Knowles  
Undersheriff Werder  
The Honorable James H. Quello  
The Honorable Rachelle B. Chong  
The Honorable Andrew C. Barrett  
The Honorable Susan Ness  
Florida Public Service Commission  
Sprint Communications Company  
MCI  
APCC Inmate Phone Service Providers Task Force